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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/815,279	04/01/2004	Alston E. Williams	5809-03	8358
28268	7590	12/27/2005	EXAMINER	
THE BLACK & DECKER CORPORATION 701 EAST JOPPA ROAD, TW199 TOWSON, MD 21286			GALL, LLOYD A	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3676	
DATE MAILED: 12/27/2005				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/815,279	WILLIAMS, ALSTON E.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Lloyd A. Gall	3676	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 October 2005.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-27 and 29-31 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 1-26,30 and 31 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) 27 and 29 is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on 4/1/04 and 6/20/05 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Applicant's election with traverse of claims 27-29 in the reply filed on October 6, 2005 is acknowledged. The traversal is on the ground(s) that the product of claims 1-26 and 31 cannot be used in a "conventional" rekeying operation. This is not found persuasive because a "conventional" rekeying operation was not referred to in the restriction requirement on page 2 of the Office action of March 23, 2005. As set forth on page 2, lines 13-15 of the Office action of March 23, 2005, the examiner indicated that the product of claims 1-26 and 31 can be used in a materially different process of using the product, such as rekeying the lock cylinder by removing the cylinder and replacing its components. It is submitted that the traversal of applicant in the REMARKS of October 6, 2005 does not address this. Instead, applicant refers to what a "conventional" lock includes, that being, upper and lower pins as well as "regular, cylindrical shear zones that never change". The REMARKS are not persuasive in arguing why the different process referred to by the examiner in the restriction requirement may not be used. It is further noted that independent claim 1 as well as independent claim 31 do not even claim the upper and lower racks which are claimed in independent claim 27.

The requirement is still deemed proper and is therefore made FINAL.

The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: In amended paragraph [0023] filed on Oct. 6, 2005, line 6, the second occurrence of "14" should read --12--. In paragraph [0040], line 6, "5" should read --4--. In the last two lines of

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paragraph [0046], it is not clear how the key surface 216 contacts the surface 70 as seen in fig. 3. If surface 216 contacts surface 70, the key would apparently not be able to engage the bottom of the pins 78 as seen in fig. 2. In paragraph [0049], lines 5 and 8, "160" should read --80--. In paragraph [0049], line 7, "in" should read --pin--.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claims 27 and 29 are objected to because of the following informalities: In claim 27, line 27, "second" should read --lower--. In claim 27, line 30, the first occurrence of "upper" should read --first--. Appropriate correction is required.

Provided the above claim objections are overcome, claims 27 and 29 would be allowable.

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Lloyd A. Gall whose telephone number is 571-272-7056. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 8:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Brian Glessner can be reached on 571-272-6843. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

LG LG
December 16, 2005

Lloyd A. Gall
Lloyd A. Gall
Primary Examiner